

## Response to the Peel Watershed Planning Commission Issues & Interests Report

(Received by email, April 27, 2006)

Hi Brian,

Our staff has gone through the report and we have a couple of comments for you.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Page 3 - How do only "three of the four First Nations possess surface rights to land blocks in the planning region"? Our maps show that they all have settlement land in the planning region, and two of the First Nations have subsurface rights as well.
- Page 10 - Goal: recognize and promote the cultural valued of the affected First Nations.
  - The actions listed here do not go far enough to protect the rights of First Nations Citizens to practice a traditional lifestyle within their traditional territory. The actions mentioned sound very much like the contemplation of designating specific area to be "provided", rather than preserving what is already available. In order to carry on a traditional lifestyle, you cannot limit it to specific areas or "opportunities" but must include the whole of the traditional territory in the practice.

### MINERAL EXPLORATION/DEVELOPMENT

- Traditional pursuits and subsistence lifestyles need to be given a greater protection from the infringement/impact of this type of development.

### OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION/DEVELOPMENT

- Traditional pursuits and subsistence lifestyles need to be given a greater protection from the infringement/impact of this type of development.

### FISH, WILDLIFE AND HABITAT

- Provision needs to be included for the changes in wildlife patterns and habitat that are happening so quickly due to global warming.

## WATER

- Given the effects of large fast moving boats on Yukon River salmon fry and on bank erosion, it is evident that there is a need to include protection from bank erosion as a consideration in this category.

## CULTURE AND HERITAGE

- Bear in mind that heritage resources are not always physical remains that can be defined by an archeological exercise. Sometimes these resources are the shape of an outcropping, a landmark, a trail, or even a particular viewscape. These types of values must be taken into consideration as well.
- The third bullet under "Issues" - please reword this to indicate that the resources and access associated with these activities are protected as well.

## TOURISM AND OUTFITTING

- Tenure granted in association with these economies cannot be allowed to interfere with subsistence lifestyles and traditional pursuits.
- These industries, as with any other activity in the area, cannot be permitted where they will have a negative impact on the environment.
- Trapping needs to be addressed and protected as well.

Please give me a call or an email if you have any questions.

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